



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT.

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CGA Government Administration and Elections Committee Public Hearing – March 6, 2020

SUPPORT FOR

Raised Bill SB 367 - AN ACT SUBJECTING THE PARTNERSHIP FOR CONNECTICUT, INC. TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND STATE ETHICS CODE

**Submitted by Pua Ford, Public Issues Team
League of Women Voters of Connecticut**

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut appreciates the opportunity today to offer support for the above-named bill, based on a basic principle recognized by the League of Women Voters of the United States, that government must

***Protect the citizen's right to know and facilitate citizen participation in
government decision making.***

Open government and a strong ethics code are needed for any governmental agency to win the confidence of the public. Without that confidence, the agency's work will always face objections from the public, imagined or actual, that their work is detrimental to the people. Connecticut's current Freedom of Information Act already covers many instances of needed confidentiality for any private-public partnership that might be established. If there seems to be a choice in an equal partnership between one party's inclination for confidentiality and governmental transparency, we must choose in favor of transparency.

Again, we thank this committee for the opportunity to comment on this raised bill.